

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, amend the paragraph beginning on line 4, to read:

-- The present invention relates to a brassiere and also to a breast cup construction for incorporation to form a brassiere the breast cup construction being of a ~~moulded~~ molded kind --.

Page 1, amend the paragraph beginning on line 9 to read:

-- In recent times, materials for the manufacture of brassieres have been developed to allow for more convenient manufacture of brasserie. Traditionally the cup forms of a brassiere have in order to introduce a three dimensional cup shape therein, consisted of several panels which have been sewn or otherwise affixed together. With the advent of ~~moldable~~ moldable synthetic materials such as foam and synthetic fabric materials, cup forms are now ~~moulded~~ molded into a single panel of material or assembly of panels of materials to define the three dimensional cup form. The ability to ~~mould~~ mold material to define a cup form of a desirable shape has allowed the manufacturing process to be simplified or accelerated. As well as providing support to a breast of a wearer, the cup forms are often also required for additional benefits to the wearer. Indeed some women prefer that a brassiere conceals some if not all of the regions of the breasts of the wearer. Indeed for modesty reasons it is desirable that the nipples of a wearer at all times remain unnoticeable from the exterior of the brassiere and any over garment that may be worn by the wearer. ~~Moulded~~ Molded cup forms of brassieres that are currently available generally do not provide for any enhancement to the cup form for such purposes. . ~~Moulded~~ Molded cup forms are normally of a substantially even thickness across the body of the cup and whilst it may be possible to increase the thickness of the cup in order to thereby reduce the

visibility of the nipples of a wearer to the exterior of the brassiere such increasing thickness may add to the cost of manufacture of the brassiere. Furthermore it is undesirable for increased thickness of the brassiere to exist at its perimeter if the presence of the brassier entirely, is to be as unobtrusive as possible. It is desirable for the perimeter of the bra to be relatively thin so that it has the appearance of feathering in with the skin of the wearer -

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Page 2, amend the paragraph beginning on line 3 to read:

- - Accordingly it is an object of the present invention to provide a brassiere which includes ~~moulded~~ molded cup forms which address the abovementioned ~~desiderata~~ desire or which will at least provide the public with a useful choice - -.

Page 2, amend the paragraph beginning on line 11 to read:

- - Accordingly in a first aspect of the present invention consists in a ~~moulded~~ molded breast cup for a brassiere including

a ~~moulded~~ molded to a cup form and laminated structure of a first panel of a flexible foam material and a second panel material, said first and second panels being substantially coextensive to each other and define a breast cup perimeter shape, - -.

Page 3, amend the paragraph beginning on line 20 to read:

- - Preferably a first panel of fabric material overlies said assembly to the concave ~~said~~ side of its said cup shape. - -

Page 3, amend the paragraph beginning on line 24 to read:

- - Preferably wherein a second panel of fabric material overlies said assembly to the convex of ~~said~~ side of its said cup shape. - -

Page 4, amend the paragraph beginning on line 7 to read:

- - In a further aspect the present invention consists in a ~~moulded~~ molded breast cup as hereinbefore described containing no seams, lines of stitching inward of a region immediately adjacent said perimeter. - -

Page 4, amend the paragraph beginning on line 12 to read:

- - In a further aspect the present invention consists in a method of forming a ~~moulded~~ molded breast cup comprising

laminating (a) a first planar panel of a flexible foam material which is of varying thickness such having been defined by a removal to form a contouring material from a first major surface of said first planar panel to create a zone which is of greater thickness at a region or regions away from the perimeter more, that at regions of lesser thickness more proximate to said perimeter, with (b) a second panel of flexible material wherein said second panel is disposed to the first major side of the said panel, to form a coextensive planar assembly

~~moulding~~ molding said planar assembly to define a cup shape into said planar assembly

removing any access non cup shape defined regions from said assembly. - -

Page 4, amend the paragraph beginning on line 23 to read:

- - In ~~sift~~ still a further aspect the present invention consists in a method of forming a ~~moulded~~ molded breast cup comprising

laminating (a) a first planar panel of a first ply of flexible foam material and a second ply of flexible foam material engaged to a first major sided of said first ply said first panel is of varying thickness such having been defined the provisions of said second ply to said first ply to create a zone which is of greater thickness at a region or regions away from the perimeter more, that at regions of lesser thickness more proximate to said perimeter, with (b) a second panel of flexible material wherein said second panel is disposed to the first major side of the said panel, to form a coextensive planar assembly

~~moulding~~ molding said planar assembly to define a cup shape into said planar assembly

removing any access non cup shape defined regions from said assembly. - -

Page 5, amend the paragraphs beginning on lines 24, 26 and 29 to read:

- - Figure 2 is a sectional view through an assembly of panels for the purpose of manufacturing the cup of the present invention prior to being ~~moulded~~ molded,

Figure 3, illustrates two sets of panel assemblies prior to such sets being laminated together and prior to being formed into a three dimensional cup form by the ~~moulding~~ molding elements intermediate of which the two assemblies are located.

Figure 4, is a plan view of a cup form having been ~~moulded~~ molded and trimmed to define a perimeter suitable for incorporation as part of a brassiere, - -

Page 6, amend the paragraphs beginning on lines 7, 9 and 11 to read:

- - Figure 9 is a sectional view through section ~~[[AA]]~~9-9 of Figure 4 wherein the assembly of panels according to that shown in Figure 3 is provided, and

Figure 10 is a sectional view through section ~~[[AA]]~~9-9 of Figure 4 wherein an assembly of panels according to that shown in Figure 8 is provided ~~[[and]]~~.

~~Figure 11 is a sectional view through an arrangement capable of being utilized for trimming the foam panel 8. - -~~

Page 6, amend the paragraph beginning on line 15 to read:

- - With reference to Figure 7 there is shown a brassiere 1 including two breast cup constructions 2 which have been engaged to various other components of the brassiere 1 such as for example body straps 3 and over the shoulder straps 4. The breast cups 2 are engaged together at an intermediate connection 5. The breast cups have a perimeter 6 and a body portion 7 inward of the perimeter 6. The breast cup is of a form having been ~~moulded~~ molded and to a large extent is of a single structure consisting of a plurality of overlying and preferably substantially coextensive panels defining the assembly of the cup form. It is however envisaged that the breast cup of the present invention may have disposed therefrom or engaged thereto by means of sewing or otherwise affixing additional panels which may extend from the perimeter 6 of the cup form or may be associated with the cup form 2 intermediate of the perimeter 6 and define part of the body portion 7 of the cup form. - -

Page 7, amend the paragraph beginning on line 3 to read:

- - With reference to Figure 4 there is shown a breast cup 2. The breast cup is

~~moulded~~ molded to a three dimensional form such as a cup form for the ultimate purpose of supporting and covering at least part of the breasts of the wearer. The breast cup 2 has been ~~moulded~~ molded from materials which with reference to Figure 1A, may include a first panel of flexible foam material 8, preferably a second panel of flexible foam material 9, a covering panel of flexible fabric material 10 and a second panel of covering flexible fabric material 11. In an alternative form however as for example shown in Figure 8, the breast cup may be defined by a first panel of flexible foam material 8, the covering flexible fabric material 10 and the second panel of covering flexible material 11 without there being a provision of a second panel of flexible foam material 9. - -

Page 7, amend the paragraph beginning on line 23 to read:

- - With reference to Fig. 1A there is shown a sectional view of the panels of the breast cup of the present invention consisting of a first panel of a flexible foam material 8 and a second panel of a flexible foam material 9. Disposed and preferably substantially coextensive with the first panel of foam material 8 there is provided a panel of flexible fabric material 10. The laminated form of the assembly of the panel 8 and 10 may be provided from roll stock material to be used in the method of the present invention. ~~The fabric material 10 may for example be ??? and the foam material may for example be ???.~~ The foam panel 9 includes a first major surface 13 which is exposed and a second major surface 14 against which the fabric panel 10 is laminated. In this precursor form of the assembly of panel 8 and 10, such an assembly is in an ~~unmoulded~~ unmolded condition and in a natural state assumes a flat or planar condition.- -

Page 8, amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 to read:

- ~~The~~ [[A]] second panel of flexible foam material 9 in assembly for example with [[a]] the second panel of flexible fabric material 11 is also provided. The second panel of foam material 9 includes an exposed major surface 15 and a covered major surface 16 against which the second flexible fabric panel 11 is laminated. Like the assembly of panels 8 and 10, the panels 9 and 11 may be provided in a precursor form from a feed of roll stock and in a natural state assume a substantially planar or flat condition. With reference to Figure 1B, there is shown an assembly of panels 9, 11 having been cut from a feed of roll stock into a substantially rectangular or square form. The size of the cut precursor panel assemblies is such that when subjected to ~~moulding~~ molding in a ~~moulding~~ molding machine to define the three dimensional cup form thereof, it is of a sufficiently large size to define the entire desired cup form. The first panel of foam material 8 is preferably of a greater thickness X than the thickness Y of the second panel of foam material 9. With reference to Fig. 2, the first panel of foam material 8 is formed to define a zone of increased thickness 16. This zone of increased thickness 16 is provided intermediate of the perimeter 17 of the assembly of panels 8, 10. The zone of increased thickness 16 is also provided inward (inward of the perimeter) of that region of the panel assembly 8, 10 into which a ~~moulded~~ molded cup form to ultimately define a breast cup of the present invention will be defined. - -

Page 8, amend the paragraph beginning on line 22 to read:

- - Accordingly when formed to a cup form with the other panels to define the breast cup of the present invention as shown in Figure 4, the zone of increased thickness 16 is provided inward from the perimeter 6 of the breast cup. In the preferred form the first panel

of flexible foam material prior to being ~~moulded~~ molded is formed to be of a substantially constant thickness Z save for the zone of increased thickness 16. In the most preferred form such contouring is by the shaving of the panel to define the contoured shape on the first major side 13 of the precursor panel of flexible foam material 8. After having been formed/shaped the then contoured first major surface 13A of the first panel of flexible foam material 8 will include the zone of increased thickness 16 extending from regions of reduced thickness at or towards the perimeter of the panel assembly 8, 10. The zone of increased thickness may for example be a dome shape as for example shown in Figure 2 and of a constant diameter D. Alternatively the shape may be of a gradually undulation as for example shown in Figure 5. So that the existence of this zone of increased thickness in the final version of the brassiere is to a large extent disguised, it is preferred that the zone of increased thickness 16 has a maximum thickness or summit substantially centrally within the zone and provides a reduction in thickness towards the perimeter 19 of the zone. Such reduction in thickness may be by a linear tapering as for example shown in Figure 8 or may be a curve as for example shown in Figure 5 out to the perimeter 17. In the most preferred form the second panel of flexible foam material 9 is not subjected to any contouring. The first panel of flexible foam material 8 is subjected to contouring but only on the non-fabric panel 10, disposed side of the first panel of flexible foam material 8. - -

Page 9, amend the paragraph beginning on line 14 to read:

- - The assembly of panels 8, 10 is then laminated with the assembly of panels 9, 11 in a ~~moulding~~ molding device as for example shown in Figure 3. The ~~moulding~~ molding device consists of two ~~mould~~ mold portions 20 and 21 each having formed therein a profile

or contour of a kind to introduce into the precursor assemblies of panels the three dimensional or cup form of the breast cup. The upper ~~mould~~ mold portion 20 for example includes a concave relief and the lower portion 21 provides a convex upstand of a substantially complimentary shape to the concave recess of the upper ~~mould~~ mold portion 20. The assemblies of panels 8, 10 and 9, 11 are positioned intermediate of the ~~mould~~ mold portions in a manner so that they overly each other in an appropriate condition (preferably coextensively) whereupon the two ~~mould~~ mold portions are then brought together. The two ~~mould~~ mold portions are preferably heated. Additional adhesive may be placed intermediate of the assemblies 9, 11 and 8, 10 so that both pressure adhesive and heat will ensure that a good laminated bond can be established between the two subassemblies, the cup form can be trimmed from the ~~moulded~~ molded precursor panels to define a perimeter shape such as for example shown in Figure 4. Part of the perimeter of the cup form 6 may include an additional compression zone 23 where the overlying panels of material have been subjected to more enhanced compression than that of the main body portion 7. Such additional compression zones may serve the purpose of allowing for the cup to define a flange useful for the purposes of securing the cup to other components of the brassiere. - -

Page 10, amend the paragraph beginning on line 5 to read:

- - With reference to Figure 4, it can be seen that upon the forming of a three dimensional form or cup form in the precursor materials as well as laminating the precursor materials together, will locate the zone of increased thickness 16 inward from the perimeter 6 of the breast cup 2. The zone of increased thickness 16 is provided within the body portion 7 of the breast cup 2. This zone of increased thickness is positioned to correspond

with the usual location of the nipple of the breast of a wearer of a brassiere incorporating the breast cup 2. With reference to Figure 9 there is shown a cross sectional view through section [[A-A]]9-9 of Figure 4 wherein the zone of increased thickness 16 is shown to be provided to enhance the overall thickness of the breast cup in such zone. Thickness B is greater than thickness C. Whilst the thickness is perhaps only marginally greater at B than at C, a further enhancement to reduce the visibility of a nipple of a wearer through the breast cup is as a consequence of the higher density of material at the zone of increased thickness 16. Once the breast cup has been formed, the zone of increased thickness 16 will compress slightly such compression enhancing the material density at this zone thereby reducing the likelihood of observing the presence of the nipple through the breast cup. In the preferred form the thickness A is substantially the same as the thickness X and accordingly at the region of maximum thickness of the zone of increased thickness 16, little or no shaving or removal of the foam from the precursor precontoured panel of flexible foam material 8 has occurred.- -

Page 10, amend the paragraph beginning on line 24 to read:

- - With reference to Fig. 6, there is shown an alternative to the formation of the zone of increased thickness 16 wherein a first ply of foam material [[8]] 8A has engaged to its exposed major surface 13 a second ply of material 24 such as a like foam material which has been contoured to provide the same desired profile to the assembly of the first ply 8A and the second ply 24 as that shown for example in Figures 2, 5 or 8.- -